Joseph Ramsay Hall.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

MONTREAL CURLING CLUB

AND

RULES OF THE GAME,

AS AMENDED, 3RD JANUARY, 1874.

'How Social the Game an' how Manly.'

MONTREAL:

PRINTED BY J. STARKE & CO.

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CONSTITUTION.

I.—The name of the Club shall continue to be the "MONTREAL CURLING CLUB," as agreed on when formed on the 22nd January, in the year 1807.

II.—The Office Bearers of the Club shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, two Representative Members, a Chaplain, a Treasurer and Secretary. There shall also be a Committee of Management, to be composed of five Members, (who shall elect their own Chairman), three to form a quorum, whose duties it shall be to attend to the formation and keeping of the Rinks, the arrangement of matches, the appointment of players thereto, and the order in which they shall play, and such other incidental business as may not be otherwise provided for. The President, (or in his absence the Vice-President), and the Secretary and Treasurer, shall be *ex-officio* Members of this Committee.

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III.—The Annual General Meeting for the election of office bearers, skips to play in matches with other Clubs, and a dinner committee, shall be held on the first Wednesday in November, in each year; nine Members present are required to form a quorum, at this and all General Meetings of the Club. An advertisement in the newspapers of the day before and the morning of the Meeting, shall be a sufficient notification.

IV.—The second Wednesday in December, and the first Wednesday in April, shall be the regular days for the opening and closing Club dinners, and the same committee shall superintend the arrangements for both.

V.—Any person wishing to become a member, may be proposed at any general meeting of the Club, and if seconded, the election shall take place at next General Meeting.

VI.—Election shall always be by ballot; one black ball in every nine voting shall exclude the applicant.

VII.—The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, or in the absence of both, the Chairman of the Committee of Management, may, of his own

accord, and shall on the application of any three members, call a General Meeting of the Club, for the election of members, or for any other purpose.

VIII.—Candidates for membership shall pay on admission the sum of $10 as an entrance fee, for which they will be furnished with stones; and they shall not be considered as members till the sum is paid; they shall also pay an annual subscription of such sum as may be agreed on by the Club at the Annual General Meeting. The proposer of a new member shall in all cases be responsible for the entrance fee, and the seconder for the first year's subscription. Any member providing a pair of Curling Stones, approved of by the committee of management, shall have the sum of $8 returned to him, and the Stones shall become the property of the Club, but he has the exclusive right to use them as long as he remains a member thereof. Should any member on leaving the Club desire to take his Stones with him, he may do so on paying to the Club the sum of $8 for them.

IX.—With a view to the accommodation of Military Gentlemen, they may, on election, be allowed to join the Club, paying only the annual subscription, for

which—being viewed as transient members only—they will be entitled to all the privileges of the Club, with the exception of voting at General Meetings, and holding office; but should such members desire to enjoy all the privileges of the Club, they may do so on payment of the entrance fee, $10.

X.—Honorary Members, who have the single privilege of attending the Club dinners, may be elected by ballot at any general meeting of the Club, having been proposed at a previous meeting. The Chaplain shall be considered, *ex-officio*, an honorary member, with the privilege of playing.

XI.—Any member who may have resigned by letter to the Club, may be re-admitted by ballot, on payment of the sum of $2, as an entrance fee; but any member absenting himself, or retiring without formal resignation, cannot again join the Club without payment of all arrears due by him.

XII.—Every Saturday during playing season shall be known as Club days, and that no private matches be played on these days, and that no other days of the week shall there be more than one rink occupied by any private match.

XIII.—No game for money shall be allowed, and no challenge on behalf of the Club shall be given or accepted without the consent of a majority of the members present at a general meeting called for the purpose.

XIV.—It is to be distinctly understood that in all matches with other Clubs, no member whose subscription for the current year is unpaid, shall be entitled to play; and any member whose subscription for any previous year is unpaid, forfeits his right to play on the Club rinks.

XV.—There shall be an annual match between the Married men and the Batchelors of the Club, to be played, if possible, on the day of the opening dinner. Each party to appoint their own skips, who shall name and place the players.

XVI.—There shall be an annual competition for the Gold Medal of the Club, between the first and fifteenth day of January; the precise day to be determined by the Club, and all the members duly notified thereof; and at the end of five years, the member who has won it oftenest, shall retain it as his own property for ever. If two or more have gained it an equal number of

times, they shall, at the end of the five years again compete for it as above, according to the rules prescribed for playing for the Medals granted by the R. C. C. C., the victor in this competition to be declared the winner of the Medal.

XVII.—Refreshments shall not in any case be paid for by the Club, nor are the Club funds to be made use of on any pretence for this purpose.

XVIII.—Any member infringing these rules, subjects himself to expulsion from the Club; and any member may be expelled by a majority present at a general meeting called for that purpose, the charge or charges having been preferred against him at a previous meeting, and a copy, in writing, of the charges furnished to him by the Secretary, at least one week before the time of meeting for expulsion.

XIX.—The rules of the Club may be altered, or new rules added, with the consent of three-fourths of the members present at any annual general meeting, or a special meeting convened for that purpose, notice of such alteration or addition having been given at a previous general meeting held at least a week before.

RULES OF THE GAME.

1.—The length of the rink shall be forty-two yards; any deviation occasioned by peculiar circumstances, to be by mutual agreement of both parties. When a game is begun, the rink is not to be lengthened or shortened, unless by the consent of the majority of players.

2.—As the game should be considered one of science rather than strength, the rink shall be shortened in all cases when, from any cause, the majority of the players cannot make up; and in cases of an equal division or disagreement amongst the parties on the subject, the umpire shall decide.

3.—The number of shots in a game—if not otherwise mutually fixed upon—shall be *thirty-one.*

4.—The *Hog Score* shall be one-sixth part of the length of the rink, from *Hack* to *Tee;* every stone which does not clear a square, placed on the score,

shall be considered a *Hog;* but no stone shall be declared a *Hog*, if it has struck another which is over the *Hog Score.*

5.—Every rink shall be composed of four players a side, each with two stones, unless otherwise mutually agreed upon. In no case shall the same individual or party, play two stones in succession; and every player shall deliver both his stones—alternately with an opponent—before any other of the same side or party play one.

6.—At the commencement of a game, the sides shall draw lots for the first play, after which, the party winning the end, shall always play first.

No stone can be counted, the inner edge of which does not lie within *seven* feet from the *Tee*, unless by previous mutual agreement. In cases where each party has a stone equally near the *Tee*, neither shall be counted, and if these are the nearest stones, the end shall be declared a tie, and the winning party of the previous end shall again play first. Measurements to be taken from the centre of the *Tee*, to the nearest point of the stone.

7.—The notch, or *hack*, is to be so placed that the stones on being played shall pass over the nearest *Tee*. A player, stepping aside to take a shot, shall forfeit his stone for that end.

8.—If any player shall improperly speak to, or interrupt another while in the act of delivering his stone, one point shall be added to the score of the party so interrupted; the umpire to be the judge of the interruption.

9.—The rotation of play adopted at the beginning must be observed throughout the game.

10.—All curling stones should be of a circular shape. No stone can be changed in a game unless with the consent of the opposing party. If a stone rolls and stops on its side or top it shall not be counted, but put off the ice. Should the handel quit a stone in the delivery, the player must keep hold of it, otherwise he will not be entitled to re-play the shot.

11.—If a player plays out of turn, the stone so played may be stopped in its progress and returned to the player. If the mistake should not be discovered till the stone is at rest, the opposite party shall have

the option either to add one to their score, and let the game proceed in its original rotation, or to declare the end null and void.

12.—The player's party may sweep the stone played, at any time or place, under the direction of the *Skipper*. The adverse party may sweep as soon as the stone has passed the *Tee* farthest from the player. Sweeping to be always on one side and not forwards. Previous to each direction being given, either party is entitled to sweep the rink clean.

13.—Parties before beginning to play, to take by lot different sides of the rink, which they are to keep throughout the game; no persons to cross or go on the middle of the rink when a player is about to deliver his stone. The Skippers alone are to stand at the *Tee;* their respective sides, according to their rotation of play, taking their positions down to the further *Hog Score.*

14.—Should a running stone be marred by the party to whom it belongs, it is to be reckoned a *burnt* stone and put off the ice; if marred by the adverse party it sha'll be placed where the *Skipper* of the side to which it belongs shall direct. If the marring was accidental,

(of which the umpire shall judge), the stone shall be played over again. No played stone within counting distance is to be moved until the last stone of the end is played and at rest, not (unless with the consent of both sides), till the end is scored. If a stone is moved by any of the party lying the shot, the stone or stones yet to be played by the opposite side shall be placed where the *skipper* of that side shall direct; if moved by any one of the losing side, they shall be prevented from playing such stones as they may have unplayed, and one point shall be deducted from their score. If the stone has been moved accidentally (of which the umpire shall judge), it is to be replaced as near as possible into its former position.

15.—No measuring of shots allowable previous to the termination of the end. Disputed shots to be determined by the *skippers*, or if they disagree, by the umpire, if there is one, if there is none, then by some neutral person mutually chosen, whose decision shall be final.

16.—The *skippers* shall have the regulation and direction of the game, and may play in what part of it they please; but having chosen their places at the

beginning, they must continue in the same till the end of the game.

The players may advise, but cannot control their director, nor shall they interfere with his orders. Each *skipper* shall, at the commencement of the game, name the person who is to direct while he (*the skipper*), is playing. Every player to follow the direction given him.

17.—Should any question arise, the determination of which is not provided for by the words or spirit of these rules, it shall be referred to the umpire. If there is no umpire, it shall be referred to the office bearers; in either case the decision shall be final.

Office Bearers:

SIR A. T. GALT, *President.*
ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, *Vice-President.*
REV. GAVIN LANG, *Chaplain.*
JAMES TYRE, *Treasurer.*
ROBERT BROWN, *Secretary.*
SIR A. T. GALT, } *Representative Members.*
HON. JOHN YOUNG, }

Rink Committee:

JAMES WILLIAMSON, | A. BARNSTON,
C. H. TYRE, | J. H. ROUTH,
D. B. McPHERSON.

Ordinary Members :

JAMES TYRE,
JOHN DYDE,
SIR HUGH ALLAN,
HON. JOHN YOUNG,
ALLAN GILMOUR,
GEORGE DENHOLM,
ROBERT LECKIE,
SIR A. T. GALT,
HENRY McKAY,
JAMES WILLIAMSON,
A. T. PATERSON,
H. L. McDOUGALL,
HENRY BUDDEN,
ROBERT SIMMS,
ALEX. CAMPBELL,
CHARLES SIMMS,
E. A. PRENTICE,
W. W. OGILVY,
FRANK H. SIMMS,
JAMES GRANT,
JOHN GRANT,
THOMAS KERSHAW,
R. J. REEKIE,
ALFRED BROWN,
THOMAS CRAMP,
H. S. McDOUGALL,
D. J. BANNATYNE,
THOMAS BACON,
L. S. BLACK,
ALEX. URQUHART,
JOHN OGILVY,
ROBERT COWAN,
ED. RAWLINGS,
WILLIAM ANGUS
JAMES A. GILLESPIE,
NOLAN DELISLE,
JAMES DONNELLY,
E. L. BOND,
HON. L. S. HUNTINGTON,
DR. WANLESS,
D. B. McPHERSON,
SAM. WADDELL,
DAVID McKAY,
FRANK BOND,
R. C. JAMIESON,
JOHN McDOUGALL,
JOHN H. ROUTH,
ALEX. BARNSTON,
JAMES HARDMAN,
CHARLES LEGGE,
JOHN RANKIN,
H. H. WHITNEY,
HON. JOHN HAMILTON,
DAVID LAW,
THOMAS OGILVIE,
W. G. BEACH,
DAVID P. BEATTIE,
CHARLES H. TYRE,
ROBERT W. TYRE,
GEORGE C. TYRE,
PHILIP CROSS,
WOL. THOMAS,
JOHN GORDON,
JOHN L. HARDMAN,
W. B. MATHEWSON,
W. J. M. JONES,
J. J. REDPATH,
THOMAS ROSS,
HENRY L. SMYTH,
ROBERT BROWN,
PETER WARDLAW,
ALEX. DENISTOUN,
GEO. F. HAGAR,
E. A. WHITEHEAD,
GEORGE GILLESPIE,
R. DALGLISH,
D. W. ROSS,
THOMAS DAVIDSON,
JOSHUA COLLINS,
GEORGE MATHEWSON,
R. McLEA,
A. M. PERKINS,
WM. M. RAMSAY,
GEORGE WM. CAMPBELL,
ROBERT S. C. BAGG,
JAMES INGLIS
GEORGE HOPE,
WM. ROBERTSON,
FRANK REDPATH,
G. A. DRUMMOND,
R. W. CAMPBELL,
WM. HARDER.